

# DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 219 349

SP 020 317

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**TITLE** Survey of Hungary: Past and Present. Educational Curriculum Kit 7.  
**INSTITUTION** Hungarian Ethnic Heritage Study, Pittsburgh, PA.  
**SPONS AGENCY** American Hungarian Educators' Association, Silver Spring, Md.; Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (ED), Washington, DC. Ethnic Heritage Studies Program.  
**PUB DATE** 81  
**NOTE** 44p.; For related documents, see SP 020 311-320.  
**AVAILABLE FROM** Paul Body, 5860 Douglas St., Pittsburgh PA 15217 (\$1.50).  
**EDRS PRICE** MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.  
**DESCRIPTORS** Biographies; \*Demography; \*European History; Foreign Countries; Geography; \*International Relations; Land Settlement; Migration Patterns; Revolution; Social Action; United States History  
**IDENTIFIERS** \*Hungarian Americans; \*Hungary

## ABSTRACT

This booklet summarizes basic information concerning Hungary and Hungarians in America. It is intended as an initial source of reference for the teacher, student, and general reader. The history of Hungary is discussed in three sections, including the origins of Hungarians, the history and culture of Hungary since 1500, and conditions in Hungary today. Brief biographies of prominent Hungarians in America are offered, focusing on those in the military, the sciences and medicine, the arts, and sports. A chronology of Hungarian history to 1979 and selected references are included.  
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# HUNGARIAN ETHNIC HERITAGE STUDY OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Educational Curriculum Kit 7



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## SURVEY OF HUNGARY PAST AND PRESENT

prepared by  
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The contents of this publication were developed under a grant from the Ethnic Heritage Studies Program, United States Department of Education. The statements made in this publication do not necessarily represent the policy of the United States Department of Education nor of the United States Government.

This study was sponsored by and carried out with the support of the American-Hungarian Educators Association of Washington, D.C.

Cover design, logo, line drawings, and design assistance by  
Barbara H. Sahli, Design and Drawing, Takoma Park, Maryland.

• 1981 Hungarian Ethnic Heritage Study of Pittsburgh \*

# **HUNGARIAN ETHNIC HERITAGE STUDY OF PITTSBURGH**

**Educational Curriculum Kit 7**

## **SURVEY OF HUNGARY: PAST AND PRESENT**

**Prepared by:  
Andrew Boros-Kazai and Paul Bódy**

**Published by:  
HUNGARIAN ETHNIC HERITAGE STUDY GROUP,  
PITTSBURGH  
Dr. Paul Bódy, Director**

**Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

**1981**

## INTRODUCTION

The Hungarian Ethnic Heritage Study of Pittsburgh is pleased to present a series of ten educational curriculum kits concerning the history, culture and current community life of Hungarians in Greater Pittsburgh.

The purpose of this series is to provide an easily understandable guide to the Hungarian ethnic community in Greater Pittsburgh. The ten curriculum kits can be read and understood by the interested student, teacher, and general reader. No special training in Hungarian studies is presumed.

The format of curriculum kits was chosen for several reasons. By treating specific topics separately, we wished to present to the reader, student and teacher a comprehensive view of a well-defined topic. For example, the reader interested in current ethnic life will find most of that information in kits 3 and 4, concerned with "Historic Hungarian Places" and "Hungarian Community Life," respectively. On the other hand, the historically-inclined reader will turn to kit 2, "Hungarian Immigrants in Greater Pittsburgh, 1880-1980." Another practical consideration was that teachers should be able to use each kit as a basic information source, reading material, and teaching guide on a specific topic. Those interested in several topics will probably review all kits and consult additional sources listed in each of them.

The titles of the ten curriculum kits are:

1. Children's Hungarian Heritage
2. Hungarian Immigrants in Greater Pittsburgh, 1880-1980
3. Guide to Historic Hungarian Places in Greater Pittsburgh
4. Hungarian Community Life in Greater Pittsburgh
5. Hungarian Folk Traditions Revisited
6. Hungarian Folk Arts and Crafts
7. Survey of Hungary: Past and Present
8. Hungarian Historical Sources and Collections in Greater Pittsburgh
9. Bibliographical Guide to Hungarian-American Sources
10. Teaching Guide for Hungarian Curriculum Kits.

These curriculum kits respond to the special need of the classroom teacher for relevant materials and a teaching guide to Hungarian ethnic studies. The first seven kits

introduce selected subject areas, while kits 8-10 provide guidelines for research and teaching.

Another feature of our study is that it makes available an extraordinary amount of primary source material relating to the history of the Pittsburgh Hungarian community. In the course of our research, we have identified and evaluated historical resources preserved in 13 libraries, 25 church collections, and 24 organizational archives, amounting to a total of 62 separate documentary collections. All major holdings in each collection are identified, evaluated, and annotated for the benefit of the prospective student and scholar in kit 8. To illustrate the potential value of these resources, we have used them liberally in our narrative.

This publication is not intended as the final word on Hungarians in Pittsburgh, but the first major step leading to the discovery and better understanding of the Hungarian heritage. Our primary task was to prepare an inventory of documentary resources, to present selected aspects of the Hungarian heritage, and to design guidelines for classroom teaching. We hope that the results of our work will encourage students, teachers, and scholars to explore the Hungarian heritage. We welcome such explorations and are prepared to provide assistance if requested.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all persons and organizations who supported this undertaking. We acknowledge the financial assistance provided to us by the Ethnic Heritage Studies Program of the United States Department of Education, which made our study possible. We express our special thanks to the Pittsburgh Hungarian community, to all churches and synagogues, fraternal, social, and cultural organizations, as well as individuals who responded so generously to our requests. We wish to extend our appreciation to our Advisory Council, representing both Hungarian organizations and ethnic studies specialists. We appreciate also the support received from our organizational sponsor, the American Hungarian Educators' Association. Finally, as project director I wish to take this opportunity to commend the outstanding cooperation, dedication, and sustained performance, often under trying circumstances, of all study participants, and especially of their families, whose patience, sacrifices, and sense of humor made the completion of this study possible.

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## 1. Preface

This curriculum kit summarizes basic information concerning Hungary and Hungarians in America. It is intended as an initial source of references for the teacher, student and general reader. The primary emphasis is on generally accepted facts and viewpoints which are well-documented. More detailed and specialized information is available in the attached references and in the extensive bibliography of Kit 9.



## 2. Origins of the Hungarians

Very little is known to us concerning the earliest history and origins of the Hungarians. It is generally accepted that Hungarian is a Finno-Ugrian language, related to Finnish, Estonian, Mordvin, Samoyed and other languages of the Finno-Ugrian language group. The Finno-Ugrian languages are a language group not related to the Indo-European languages, which include the major European languages.

The original home of the Hungarians was an area between the Volga River and the Ural Mountains along the rivers Kama and Oka, in southeastern European Russia. Finno-Ugrian peoples lived in this area at an undetermined early period of their history, probably for five to ten centuries. From here, the ancestors of the Hungarians separated from the other Finno-Ugrian peoples and migrated to the south, to various locations near the Black Sea. It is not known when or how long this migration occurred, but most probably it took place in the several centuries following the Birth of Christ.

In the course of their migrations, the Hungarians came into contact with several Turkish peoples. They borrowed from them many words related to agriculture and animal husbandry. Some of these Turkish tribes probably intermarried with the Hungarians. The Turkish connection is also apparent from the names by which the Hungarians became known in the historical literature of the West: Turk, Onogur. The contemporary terms: Hungarian, Ungarn, Hongrois are derivations of Onogur. Hungarians refer to themselves as Magyar, based on the name of the tribe whose leadership they accepted prior to their settlement in present-day Hungary.

About the year 889 A.D. the Hungarians moved into the area north of the Black Sea. Their area of settlement was constantly exposed to attacks by other warlike, nomadic peoples, especially an aggressive people known as the Pechenegs. Therefore, they continued to search for a permanent, defensible home. In order to establish a strong leadership among themselves, the seven Hungarian tribes elected as their chief the leader of the Magyar tribe, Almos. They pledged to acknowledge in the future his descendants as head of all Hungarian tribes. This election was one of the most important political acts of the Hungarians prior to their conquest of Hungary. It established a central military leadership and a precedent for

unified political authority. Hungarian tradition relates the ceremony by which this agreement was accomplished as follows: the six tribal leaders took solemn oaths of loyalty to Ámos, the blood of these seven were mingled in a bowl, and then they drank from the common bowl.

Following the election of Ámos, the Hungarians continued their search for a new home. They became allies of the Germanic prince Arnulf and participated in a joint campaign against Svatopluk, King of Moravia, in 892. They became especially attracted to Pannonia, the Hungarian Transdanubia of today. The actual conquest of their future homeland took place in 896 under Prince Árpád, son of Ámos. The main forces entered the Carpathians through the Pass of Verecke, others came from the south and east. The Hungarians established themselves primarily in Transdanubia and the Great Plains, allocating specific areas of settlement to each of the seven tribes.

At the time of the conquest, the Hungarians formed a society of nomadic warriors, similar to other migrating and invading nomadic peoples of the time. They brought with them rudimentary forms of art, usually expressed on metal, leather, textile and wood. They believed in animism, the spirits of good and evil, and the cult of the dead. They had a runic script. Their songs and tales are frequently mentioned, but none have been found prior to the 13th century. They buried their dead in specially designed cemeteries. Western European observers noted that Hungarians liked to live in tents as late as the 12th century.

The migrations of the Hungarians came to an end when they established themselves in the Danubian Basin in present-day Hungary. Nevertheless, they did not immediately become a peaceful society. For about half a century after their settlement in Hungary, they staged a series of military raids to Central and Western Europe. These excursions were undertaken by individual tribal forces for plunder and exaction of tribute from Western populations. Some of the raiders reached southern France and the Pyrenees. For a time, these raids were successful. First, because the aggressive style of cavalry attack used by the Hungarians was highly effective, but also because of the general lack of organized political authority in Central and Western Europe in the 10th Century. The Hungarians were definitely defeated at the Battle of Lechfeld in 955 by the forces of the Emperor Otto the Great. This defeat

practically ended the raids and changed the course of Hungarian history.

Two important changes occurred as a result of the Battle of Lechfeld. First, farsighted Hungarian leaders realized the dangers of a weak central power in Hungary. Therefore, several tribal leaders, particularly among the Magyar tribe, began to establish a strong central leadership over all Hungarian tribes. Secondly, the question of Hungary's relationship to Christianity and Western political institutions was raised. The Hungarian leader who realized the importance of these issues was Géza, who became chief of the Magyar tribe in 970. He asserted his leadership over all seven tribes and prepared the way for the establishment of a Hungarian central authority. He also initiated the conversion of Hungary to Christianity.

It was Géza's son, István (Stephen), known in Hungarian history as St. Stephen, the first King of Hungary, who accomplished his father's aims. Stephen established a unified Hungarian kingdom and acted forcefully for the conversion of Hungary to Christianity. He was crowned King of Hungary on Christmas Day 1000, with a crown sent to him by Pope Sylvester II. This is the Holy Crown of Hungary recently returned to Hungary by the United States Government. By accepting Christianity from the Pope, Hungary entered the family of Christendom and the European society of nations as an independent nation. King Stephen also established a strong central authority and laid down the foundations of a political organization in Hungary. He is rightfully considered the founder of Hungarian Christianity and of the first unified Hungarian state.



*The Crown of St. Stephen. Stephen [first King of Hungary, received this crown from Pope Sylvester II and was crowned with it on Christmas Day 1000. The Crown is still respected today as the symbol of Hungarian Christianity and of Hungarian political unity.*

### 3. Hungary Since 1500: History and Culture

The student and teacher of modern Hungarian history may find useful a brief explanation of major historical events in Hungary since 1500. This summary presents such an explanation. It is intended as a guideline to the major events and as an encouragement to more detailed reading.

On August 29, 1526 on the battlefield of Mohács, the invading Turkish armies defeated and destroyed the Hungarian forces. This event was not only a military disaster, but resulted in the dissolution of the Hungarian kingdom as a strong, unified state. For almost four hundred years, Hungary lost her national independence. The social, economic, and political development of Hungary was to be seriously retarded as a result of the Turkish military occupation. The Battle of Mohács was therefore one of the great tragedies of Hungarian modern history. When Hungarian writers of the nineteenth century looked back on Hungarian historical development, they recognized that the disaster at Mohács led to the national decline of Hungary. Károly Kisfaludy, the nineteenth century Hungarian poet, described Mohács as "the great graveyard of our national greatness."

For about two centuries, from 1526 to 1700, Hungary was devastated and her population severely reduced by Turkish wars. During this period, the country was practically divided into three centers of power: the Austrian, the Turkish, and the Transylvanian. Each ruled different parts of Hungary according to the ebb and flow of war. The northwestern regions were under Austrian control, the central and southern areas came under Turkish occupation, while Transylvania in the east emerged as an autonomous state ruled by Hungarian princes. Transylvania retained a substantial measure of self-government and pursued its own foreign policy. Its rulers kept alive the idea of Hungarian independence and supported Hungarian education and culture. Prominent among the Transylvania princes was István Báthory, who ruled Transylvania as its first elected prince and was subsequently chosen King of Poland. István Bocskai led a successful national insurrection against Habsburg repression in northern Hungary, which resulted in formal recognition of independence for Transylvania and religious freedoms for Protestants. Gábor Bethlen is the best known of the Transylvanian princes. He advanced the economic development of Transylvania; established a

well-trained standing army and pursued an independent course in foreign policy.

As Turkish military power began to decline, Hungarian leaders became increasingly concerned with the political repression of the Austrian Habsburg government. For half a century following 1660, a series of conspiracies, insurrections, and uprisings were organized against Habsburg rule. The most successful of these was the national insurrection led by Prince Ferenc Rákóczi II from 1703 to 1711. Rákóczi sought to restore Hungarian independence by gaining the support of all segments of the population for his cause, including Hungarians, Slovaks, Ruthenians and Rumanians. Though defeated militarily, the Rákóczi insurrection demonstrated the strength of the Hungarian commitment to self-government. The Treaty of Szatmár concluding hostilities provided for the obligation of the Habsburg ruler to maintain the constitutional autonomy of Hungary.

The Reformation exerted an important influence on Hungarian religious, cultural and political life. Hungarian Protestantism expanded especially in Transylvania, where religious freedom was observed by the Transylvanian princes. Hungarian Protestants emphasized the increasing use of the Hungarian language in religious, literary and educational life. One of the important milestones in the development of the Hungarian language was the translation of the Bible into Hungarian in 1591 by the Reformed scholar, Gáspár Károli. Another impact of the Reformation was the development of reform in the Hungarian Catholic Church. The leader of Catholic reform was the learned Jesuit priest and Cardinal of Esztergom, Peter Pázmány. He also emphasized the increasing use of the Hungarian language in religious and public life. One of his primary achievements was the establishment in 1635 of the University of Nagyszombat, predecessor of the present University of Budapest.

Following the Treaty of Szatmár in 1711, Hungary faced two major national problems. First was her relationship to the Habsburg Empire. Since the death of King Louis II in the Battle of Mohács, the Habsburg dynasty succeeded to rule Hungary as constitutional kings. According to the Hungarian Constitution, they were required to rule Hungary as a separate kingdom, according to Hungarian constitutional guarantees. While some Habsburg rulers observed Hungarian constitutional practices, others did not. In practice, a continuous

power struggle evolved between the Hungarian legislature and the Habsburg government regarding the special constitutional rights of Hungary. One of the important developments in this controversy was the Pragmatic Sanction of 1722. It was an agreement between the Habsburg ruler and the Hungarian legislature providing for the female as well as the male succession to the Hungarian Crown and affirming the strong commitment of the ruler and his descendants to observe the constitutional rights of Hungary. While this agreement did not end the controversies between Hungary and the Habsburg government, it did confirm the obligation of the ruler to govern Hungary according to Hungarian constitutional principles.

The other important national issue for Hungary was the reconstruction of the country from the destruction of the Turkish conquest. This was an enormous task. The consequences of the Turkish wars were truly disastrous. The population had been reduced from about four million in 1500 to two and a half million in 1700. Villages, towns and districts had lost the major part of their population. Some had been totally extinguished. Since most of the population loss occurred in the Hungarian Plain, the Hungarian ethnic population suffered the most severely. War, disease, and Turkish slavery destroyed much of the Hungarian population and Hungarian settlements in the central plains. Their place was taken by Croats, Serbians, and Rumanians, who migrated to Hungary. One particular Hungarian region of the Great Plains had a Hungarian population of 42,000 in 1550. By 1600 the region had no Hungarians, but 5,000 Rumanians. As a result of these population losses, the proportion of Hungarians in the population of the country was reduced from about 85 percent to near 45 percent. In addition, there were many other serious problems to be resolved. Cultivation of the soil had been neglected and agricultural practices were antiquated. Public works needed to be developed. Waterways had to be improved. The destroyed settlements had to be rebuilt. What was needed for Hungary was the physical and social reconstruction of the country. While some individuals and the government recognized the need, only very limited action was taken to awaken the nation and to initiate appropriate measures.

An intellectual and political awakening was initiated by a small group of noble writers in the late eighteenth century.

Their leader was György Bessenyei (1746-1811). Bessenyei was the founder of Hungarian enlightened thought aimed at raising Hungary from its situation of neglect, stagnation and backwardness. Bessenyei became thoroughly acquainted with the ideas of English and French enlightened thinkers as a member of the Queen's Royal Hungarian Bodyguard in Vienna. He analyzed and applied the ideas of Western thinkers to the special conditions of Hungary. His first premise was that the development of science and knowledge should serve as the foundation for human welfare. Therefore, he called for the development of a Hungarian language as the medium of expression for scientific advancement. Basic to Bessenyei's program was a deep concern for the improvement of all segments of Hungarian society, including particularly the education and social advancement of the lower classes. But he saw such improvements possible only through the Hungarian language, the establishment of a Hungarian Scientific Society, and an improved standard of education and science.

All these ideas were successfully pursued by another outstanding Hungarian writer, Ferenc Kazinczy (1759-1831). Kazinczy was also influenced by the ideas of the Western Enlightenment. He became well acquainted with the German literary renaissance of the eighteenth century and developed a profound understanding of linguistics and literature. Kazinczy agreed with Bessenyei that the great need was to improve and advance the social, cultural, and political life of Hungary. His special contribution was that in cooperation with contemporary Hungarian writers, he developed and gained general acceptance for a refined literary language that became the modern Hungarian language, suitable for literary, scientific and educational advancement. By this achievement, Kazinczy prepared the way for the Hungarian literary, cultural and political renaissance in the nineteenth century.

Hungary was influenced not only by the Western Enlightenment, but also by the French Revolution of 1789. Conditions in Hungary were unsettled as a result of the policies of the Habsburg ruler Joseph II, who sought to subordinate all regions to a centralized imperial government. Simultaneously a group of young Hungarian writers became prominent, who welcomed the French Revolution and expressed their views in poems and essays. Since Joseph II had lifted censorship rules, a great deal of political commentary was freely published.

In addition, such writers as Ferenc Kazinczy, Ferenc Verseggy, János Batsányi established literary associations in order to promote a lively intellectual life. It was this situation which gave rise to the ill-fated Hungarian Jacobin Conspiracy of 1795. Ignac Martinovics, a former agent of the Viennese secret police, had become dissatisfied with his floundering career and formed two secret societies with the avowed purpose of encouraging political resistance movements in Hungary against the Habsburg government. Only very few members were recruited and those who joined did so in the belief that the societies were merely instruments of political publicity. The societies were detected in 1795 and because of excessive fears of French-style revolution, seven leaders were executed. Others, including Kazinczy, Batsányi, Verseggy were imprisoned. It is clear that no revolutionary danger existed in Hungary in 1795, only several literary associations and writers interested in enlightened ideas. But the executions of 1795 were intended to intimidate and repress even these moderate aspirations. They certainly succeeded in that purpose. For a generation, an atmosphere of fear and repression was created, stifling all organized expressions of revival until 1825. Nevertheless, the Jacobin movement symbolized to later generations the pioneers of Hungary's national rebirth.

The Hungarian Age of Reforms, from 1825 to 1848, is the age of Hungarian national revival. It was a time of idealism, of hope, and the flowering of Hungarian literature. Influenced by Hungarian and Western enlightened thinkers, the Hungarian writers and reformers of this age discussed the great issues of the nation and sought to initiate a renewal of Hungarian life.

What were the main issues? Three can be singled out as the most important. First, there was the traditional unresolved question of the status of Hungary within the Habsburg Empire. How could the traditional self-government of Hungary be assured within an empire ruled as an absolute monarchy? Second was the complex question how Hungarian society was to be reformed to bring it up to date with contemporary European institutions. There were many conceptions of reform and even more ideas on how to attain them. Thirdly, as ideas of reform were proposed, it became quite apparent that other nationalities of Hungary demanded rights for themselves as national communities. How would the Hungarian national movement respond to these demands? The complexity and



magnitude of these issues were certainly unprecedented in Hungarian history.

The Age of Reforms produced political leaders, writers and poets who were to influence Hungarian public life to the present time. We can only name the most prominent among them, with brief summaries of their contributions.

István Széchenyi was the founder of the Hungarian reform movement. He can be regarded as the Hungarian of his age, who had the most penetrating understanding of the complex issues that Hungary faced. Széchenyi was acutely aware of the need for action, yet also of the dangers of violence and confrontation. Therefore he advocated reform by a gradual change of the feudal system and the improvement of social and economic conditions. His first action was the dramatic proposal to donate his annual income in 1825 for the establishment of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. His subsequent actions were also calculated to benefit the nation in a significant manner and to create a sense of national unity. He organized the construction of the first permanent bridge over the Danube River linking Buda and Pest. He initiated construction of improvements along the Lower Danube, introduced steamship navigation on Lake Balaton, and initiated flood control of the Tisza River. Both in view of his achievements and his prophetic insights into the future of Hungary, Széchenyi is the greatest representative of the Hungarian revival.

Lajos Kossuth was in direct contrast to both the personality and ideas of Széchenyi. He was the man of direct political action. He urged political confrontation with the Habsburg government to attain constitutional self-government for Hungary. He used a fiery political style to arouse popular enthusiasm for his program. As an editor, public speaker, and political strategist Kossuth mobilized public opinion in the cause of political freedom and Hungarian nationalism. He advocated at the same time a social reform program beneficial to the lower classes. He became the most popular political leader in Hungary, primarily because he led the armed struggle against the Habsburg government in the Hungarian Revolution of 1848. Yet his leadership led to disaster for Hungary. Nevertheless, he continues to symbolize to Hungarians their national aspirations for freedom, national independence, and an improved human society.

A third representative of the Hungarian reform movement was Joseph Eötvös. A prominent poet, novelist, editor and

political writer, Eötvös developed the most comprehensive and thoroughgoing program of reform for Hungarian society. Eötvös and his associates recognized that a new social and political order had to be established in Hungary, based on the reform of all aspects of the prevailing society.

Eötvös proposed the establishment of a national legislature elected by all qualified citizens, a national Hungarian government responsible to the national legislature, legal equality of all citizens, abolition of all noble privileges, reconstruction of local government. Eötvös, like Széchenyi, advocated the gradual introduction of these reforms, but he approved their public discussion and advocacy. He definitely opposed, however, confrontation with the Habsburg government, because he believed that such a course would defeat the Hungarian reform program and lead to the imposition of absolutism. While Eötvös did not attain the popularity of Kossuth, nor the greatness of Széchenyi, he formulated the most important ideas for a reformed Hungary. At the close of his political career, he established the Hungarian system of public education, representing his most significant contribution to modern Hungarian culture.

The Hungarian Revolution of 1848 was one of the most dynamic of the revolutionary movements that erupted throughout Europe in 1848. In the early phase of the revolution, the Habsburg government accepted a sweeping set of domestic reforms for Hungary that established a national legislature and a national government for Hungary. But the failure to resolve the rights of nationalities in Hungary and the relationships of Hungary to the Habsburg Empire precipitated an armed conflict first with the Croatian, Serbian and Rumanian nationalities of Hungary and then with the Habsburg government itself. The inspired leadership of Kossuth and of several able generals enabled the Hungarians to win sweeping victories on the battlefield, but when Austria obtained the armed support of Russia, the Hungarians were forced to surrender. As an act of vengeance, the Habsburg government condemned to death and executed thirteen Hungarian generals and the Hungarian prime minister, Louis Batthyány. Kossuth fled into exile and toured the United States in 1851. The movement for independence was defeated, but the reform movement attained the substantial transformation of Hungarian society.

The Compromise of 1867 was a formal constitutional agreement between the Habsburg ruler, Francis Joseph I,

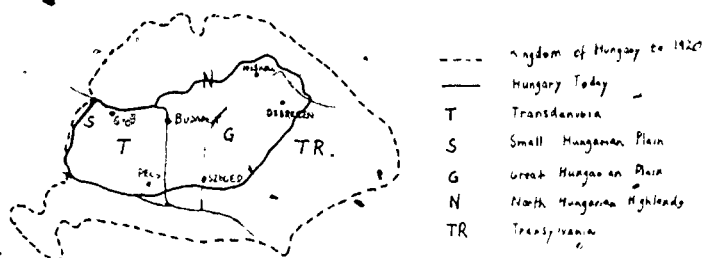
and the Hungarian national legislature. It was concluded to clarify the relationships of a self-governing Hungary with the Austrian Empire. This agreement settled through an extended negotiation and on the basis of the consent of both parties a long-standing controversy. Under the terms of the agreement, the Habsburg Empire was to be known as Austria-Hungary or the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. This state now consisted of two self-governing political units, the Kingdom of Hungary and the Austrian territories. Each was guaranteed full self-government in its internal affairs. The Emperor of Austria was crowned King of Hungary. The common affairs of the state would be administered jointly by representatives of both self-governing member states. These affairs included the military establishment, foreign affairs, and finances relating to their administration. This agreement established a constitutional system of government throughout Austria-Hungary and made possible the unprecedented economic and social development of the two member states until World War I.

World War I had disastrous consequences for Hungary. Austria-Hungary participated in the war allied with Germany. The Allied victory in 1918 contributed to the dissolution of Austria-Hungary and the establishment of small national states in Central Europe. The Treaty of Trianon of 1920, concluding peace with Hungary, deprived Hungary of two thirds of her pre-war territory and population and awarded these to Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Yugoslavia and Austria. The new frontiers were drawn according to the preferences of Serbian, Rumanian and Czech statesmen. More than three million Hungarians were separated from Hungary and included in the new national states. Hungary experienced serious economic and social dislocations as a result of the Treaty of Trianon.

World War II was a tragic experience for Hungary. Hungary tried to avoid entanglement in the war as long as possible, but political and military pressures exerted by Nazi Germany forced Hungary to provide military assistance to Germany against the Soviet Union. Hungary sought to conclude peace with the Western Allies, but this proved impossible. In October 1944, Nazi military units occupied Budapest and arrested the Regent, Miklós Horthy. Within six months, Soviet forces had occupied Hungary. Losses of the Hungarian population, destruction caused by bombing raids and military occupation inflicted unprecedented damage on Hungary. Soviet forces

continue to occupy Hungary at this time.

Since World War II, Hungary has experienced severe economic hardship, subjection to a Soviet system of government, and continued Soviet military occupation. In October 1956 popular discontent led to the outbreak of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956, seeking respect for human rights, national independence, and a democratic social order. Soviet military intervention ended the Revolution. Supported by Soviet forces, János Kádár assumed power as chairman of the Hungarian Communist Party. Under his leadership, Hungary was forcibly restored to the Soviet sphere of influence. Following a brief period of political repression, the Kadar government introduced political and economic changes modifying the formerly centralized controls of the economy and political administration. While Soviet control of Hungary continues today, Hungary pursues domestic policies that allow improved economic developments, increasing cultural contacts with Western countries, and satisfactory scientific progress.



MAP OF HISTORIC AND PRESENT-DAY HUNGARY

#### 4. Hungary Today

Hungary is located in Central Europe, in the Danube Basin, between 45 and 48 latitude and 16 and 22 longitude. Hungary has common borders with Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union, Rumania, Yugoslavia, and Austria.

The area of Hungary is 35,919 square miles, almost 80 percent the size of Pennsylvania. The population numbers 10.8 million people. More than 95 percent are of Hungarian descent. Approximately 5 million native Hungarians live

outside the borders of present-day Hungary: 3 million in neighboring Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union, and Austria, while the others are scattered all over the world.

The capital city is Budapest. The city traces its origins to the Roman settlement of Aquincum, dating back to 20 B.C. Soon after the founding of the Hungarian kingdom, Buda became the site for the royal residence. In the fifteenth century it was a significant center of Renaissance culture. Occupying opposite banks of the Danube River, the twin cities Buda and Pest were united in 1873 as Budapest. The growth of the capital city was aided by its central location, its historical role, a well-conceived urban development, the concentration of modern industry, and an excellent nationwide transportation network.

Budapest is the Hungarian center for culture, education, commerce, and industry. Universities, industrial plants, research centers, intellectual and artistic life all are concentrated there. Some of the institutions of nationwide significance located in the city are the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the Museum of Fine Arts, the National Gallery, the National Museum, the Széchenyi National Library, the Parliament Buildings, and the Royal Castle. Today more than 20 percent of the total population and 56 percent of the urban population lives in Greater Budapest.

Present day Hungary has four main regions: the Great Hungarian Plain, the Small Hungarian Plain, Transdanubia, and the North Hungarian Highlands.

The Great Hungarian Plain is the largest region, occupying about half the country. It is situated east of the Danube extending to the North Hungarian Highlands and the borders with Yugoslavia and Rumania. Geographically it extends east and south inside Rumania and Yugoslavia. It is a predominantly agricultural area, characterized by a vast flat plain, small towns with agricultural commerce, and isolated rural settlements. The main cities are Debrecen, Szeged, Kecskemét, and Szolnok. Mezőkövesd in the north and Kalocsa in the south are two ethnographic regions famous for their folklore. Both Debrecen and Szeged are locations of universities and have significant cultural resources.

The Small Hungarian Plain is the northwestern section of Hungary, defined by the Danube, the Hungarian Alps, and the Transdanubian Mountains. It is characterized by small and medium-size urban centers, a thriving industrial economy

and numerous historical places. Győr, Sopron, and Szombathely are the main urban centers. Győr is the most important industrial center of the region, with major machine and textile industries.

Transdanubia is a highly diversified, culturally and economically advanced region. The landscape comprises mountain ranges, hilly areas, lakes, plains and rivers. It is dotted by numerous small and medium-size historic towns. Located in the center of the region is Lake Balaton, a 230-square mile scenic lake, attracting hundreds of thousands of Hungarian and foreign tourists each summer. Famous health resorts are Keszthely, Héviz, Badacsony, Balatonfüred, and Siófok. The lakeshore is filled with vacation homes, cottages, small settlements and vineyards producing one of the most highly-prized Hungarian wines (*Badacsony*). The main urban centers of Transdanubia are Székesfehérvár, Pécs and Veszprém. Pécs is the most important city with significant industries and a thriving cultural life.

The North Hungarian Highlands consist of a moderately mountainous area to the north of the Great Plains. It is a highly developed industrial district, with numerous scenic and historic attractions. The primary industries are metallurgy, coal, and steel. Miskolc, the center of industry and the main urban center, is the second-largest city in Hungary. The Mátra and Bükk mountains offer numerous resorts, warm springs, and historic attractions. Kékes is the highest peak in Hungary with an elevation of 3,330 feet. Eger is an interesting historic town. Tokaj is the center of the best-known wine-growing region in Hungary.

Historically, agriculture and animal husbandry were the main sources of economic life in Hungary. In the past fifty years, however, major changes have taken place. Today only about 20 percent of the labor force is engaged in agriculture. More than half of Hungarian national income is produced by industrial and mining activities. Almost 60 percent of the Hungarian population resides today in cities and towns. Contemporary Hungary is therefore an industrially and technologically developed country, with a balanced agricultural-industrial economy.

The pattern of Hungarian industrial development has been characterized by the concentration of industry in selected major centers, such as Budapest, Miskolc, Győr. This pattern of development has resulted in the excessive concentration of industry, population, and economic resources with a few

urban centers, while it has had a detrimental impact on the development of other regions. In spite of governmental efforts to reverse this trend, it continues and expands. Since World War II, for example, 350,000 people have moved to Budapest and an additional 150,000 settled in the adjacent suburbs. Today, 200,000 workers commute daily to work from the Budapest suburbs. As more and more people from areas lacking industrial development migrate to the industrial centers, these areas remain underdeveloped, poor, and the source of considerable national problems. Areas particularly affected by this trend are Szabolcs-Szatmár, Szolnok, Békés, Csongrád, Hajdu-Bihar, essentially the southern and eastern parts of the Great Plain.

Hungarian cultural life today is characterized by vitality and dynamism. Hungarian performing groups in music, folklore, theater, and sports are world-famous. Hungarian films are shown both in Europe and North America. Through several official cultural exchange programs Hungarian scientists, artists maintain contacts with European and American research developments.

Hungarian cultural and educational life shows great variety and potential. Hungary maintains 9,000 public libraries, 183 museum, 4,000 movie theaters; 30 legitimate theaters, 2 opera houses, 4,500 sports clubs. The Hungarian Academy of Sciences operates 38 research institutes. There are 70 universities and colleges with an enrollment of 50,000 students. 80 percent of the school age population completes high school. The Hungarian literacy rate is 98.2 percent.



*Statue of George Washington in Budapest, Hungary, erected in 1906 by initiative and financial support of Hungarian immigrants in the United States. By courtesy of the American Hungarian Foundation.*

## 5. Prominent Hungarians in America

Hungarians have made outstanding contributions to the development of America in practically all fields of human endeavour. Most of them were immigrants or their descendants, but some exerted an influence as internationally known scientists, musicians, artist. This section highlights a select group of those who made special contributions to the history, public life, culture or general advancement of the United States. The list is by no means complete. Its purpose is to illustrate the personal qualities and achievements of Hungarians who have played a substantial role in the development of America.

### 1. Hungarians in America, 1600 - 1900.

Few Hungarians came to America in the colonial period. Those that are known to us were missionaries or members of committed religious communities. John Ratkay was a Jesuit missionary active among the Indians in New Mexico. He was killed in 1684. Another Jesuit father, Ferdinand Konsag, served as head of the St. Ignatius Mission in California in the eighteenth century.

The most famous Hungarian participant in the American War of Independence was Mihály Kováts de Fabricsy (1724-1779), a Hungarian hussar officer who volunteered his services to George Washington's army. He had served with distinction in the Prussian army for sixteen years and was decorated with the highest Prussian military order. Then he returned to Hungary and served as hussar officer in the Austrian army. He had retired from military service when he became strongly interested in the American revolutionary movement. In a letter to Benjamin Franklin, he offered his services to the American cause. After his arrival in America, he proposed together with the Polish patriot, Casimir Pulaski, the formation of a special military unit, known as the Pulaski Legion. Colonel Kováts became commander of the legion. He also organized and trained some of the most effective cavalry units for the American forces. Colonel Kováts played a crucial role in the defense of Charleston, South Carolina, against British forces. As commander of the Pulaski Legion, he repulsed the major British attacks on the city. On May 11, 1779, as he led his men into battle, Colonel Kováts was killed in action. He has been recognized by American historians as one of the select group of European officers who performed



outstanding services for the American revolutionary movement.

Sándor Bölöni Farkas (1795-1842) was one of those Europeans who visited the young American republic to study its political institutions. The Hungarian traveler came to the United States in 1831. On his return to Hungary, he published an excellent political analysis of the United States, entitled *Utazás Észak-Amerikában* (Journey in North America). His work was awarded the grand prize of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. The report of Bölöni Farkas exerted a very strong influence on Hungarian reformers of the time, seeking to introduce political reforms in Hungary. Recently, this work was translated into English and published by the American Philosophical Society. Today Hungarian historians recognize the study of Bölöni Farkas as an outstanding example of Hungarian political analysis. Bölöni Farkas performed a pioneering service by introducing America as the land of democracy and opportunity to the Hungarian public.

Ágoston Haraszthy (1812-1869) came to the United States as a result of the influence of Bölöni Farkas' work. He settled in California and experimented with the cultivation of more than 300 varieties of European grapes. He is recognized as the founder of viticulture and of the wine industry in California. On the centenary of his death in 1969, Governor (now President) Ronald Reagan stated:

"Colonel Ágoston Haraszthy can well be called the Father of the Wine Industry in California. . . from the 300 varieties of grapes he brought to California and planted, the wine industry of our Golden State has been improving until in the past few decades California wines have become renowned around the world as second to none. . . we certainly acknowledge our debt to Colonel Haraszthy for launching the industry into worldwide fame."

Lajos Kossuth (1802-1894), leader of the Hungarian Revolution of 1848-1849, came to the United States in 1851-1852. The United States Government and public opinion in America had shown an active sympathy for the Hungarian cause. After the defeat of the Hungarian independence movement, the United States supported international efforts to protect Kossuth and his associates who had found refuge in Turkey. At the invitation of the United States Government, Kossuth came to America following his departure from Turkey. He was received here as a celebrated revolutionary

leader. He addressed both houses of Congress and toured the major cities of the United States. He visited Pittsburgh in January 1852. A special celebration of the centenary of his Pittsburgh visit was observed by the Hungarian Room Committee in 1952. Several documents of Kossuth's visit to the city are preserved in the Hungarian Room of the Cathedral of Learning. Lajos Kossuth personifies the national aspirations of the Hungarian people for a better future. Therefore, Hungarians take special pride that he was received with high honors by the American people and their government.

Several thousand Hungarians settled in the United States after the defeat of the Hungarian Revolution. Many had seen service as officers and enlisted men in the Hungarian revolutionary army. Several hundred Hungarians joined the Union Army at the time of the Civil War. Two attained the rank of major general. Sándor Asboth and Gyula Stahel-Szamvald. General Stahel-Szamvald was decorated with the Congressional Medal of Honor. One of the remarkable feats of the Civil War was performed by Major Károly Zágonyi, who led a daring cavalry charge taking the town of Springfield, Missouri on October 25, 1861. The action is commemorated by a Springfield monument as "one of the most daring and brilliant cavalry charges of the Civil War."

Joseph Pulitzer (1847-1911) is the best-known Hungarian immigrant in the period following the Civil War. He left Hungary at the age of seventeen and emigrated to the United States as a recruit for the Union Army. After a brief military service, he settled in St. Louis. He became one of the most influential editors and newspaper publishers of his time. He founded the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and developed it into one of the leading newspapers of the Middle West. He became owner of the New York World. He established the Pulitzer prizes awarded since 1917 for fiction, poetry, biography, history, drama, music, and journalism. As a businessman, editor, journalist, and political spokesman, Pulitzer was one of the most prominent men in America in the closing decades of the nineteenth century.

While Pulitzer established himself as a leading American publisher two Hungarians became well-known to Americans in the fields of art and music. Mihály Munkácsy (1844-1900) visited the United States in 1886, after having won fame in Europe as an outstanding painter of his age. Visited by numerous American celebrities in his Paris studio, Munkácsy

painted over sixty portraits of famous Americans. Private collectors and museums in America acquired his paintings. Two of his biblical compositions, "Christ before Pilate," and "Christ on Calvary" are still owned by the Wanamaker family and are exhibited annually at the Wanamaker department store in Philadelphia. Edé Reményi (1828-1898) was a celebrated violinist and an outstanding interpreter of Hungarian folk music. After gaining an international reputation in Europe, he established his permanent residence in the United States in 1878. For two decades he was one of the outstanding concert soloists in the United States. He died in 1898 during a concert performance in San Francisco.

## 2. Hungarians in Science, Technology and Medicine.

Hungarians played an exceptional role in the worldwide expansion of scientific knowledge that characterizes our century. A high proportion of the most creative thinkers of our age in the fields of mathematics, physics, technology, and medicine are Hungarians. Many of them have established their residence in the United States. While the foundations of their education were implanted in Hungary, many of their contributions to scientific knowledge were made in the United States.

In the field of mathematics, John von Neumann is considered a foremost contributor to mathematical science. He was born in Budapest in 1903. He received his secondary education at the Evangélikus Gimnázium (*Lutheran High School*) of Budapest, well-known for its rigorous course of studies. After studies in chemistry at the University of Berlin and Zurich, he studied mathematics at the University of Budapest. He lectured for several years at the universities of Berlin and Hamburg. In 1931 he was invited to accept a position at Princeton University. In 1933 he was appointed research professor of mathematics at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

Neumann made contributions to several fields of mathematics, computer theory, quantum physics, the theory of games, and mathematical logic.

In 1945, Neumann was appointed director of the Electronic Computer Project at the Institute for Advanced Study, where he directed the development of high-speed electronic computers. He contributed to the analysis of quantum physics. He

developed mathematical applications to economics, including the minimax theorem, now used extensively in economic analysis. For his scientific achievements, Neumann received several honors of distinction. He was elected president of the American Mathematical Society. He received the Enrico Fermi Award in 1956. He died in Washington, D.C. in 1957.

György Polya is another well-known mathematician of Hungarian birth and education. He was born in 1887 in Budapest. He received his doctorate in mathematics at the University of Budapest in 1912. He continued his studies at the Universities of Göttingen and Königsberg. In 1914 he joined the faculty of the Technische Hochschule (*Polytechnic University*) in Zurich, Switzerland. He came to the United States in 1940. He taught mathematics first at Brown University, then at Stanford University.

His main contributions to mathematics include the theory of real and complex functions, probability calculus, and mathematical logic. He published several mathematical books for the layman, including such well-known studies as *How to Solve It*, *Mathematics and Plausible Reasoning*, and *Mathematical Discovery*.

John George Kemeny is nationally known as a teacher of distinction, a leading mathematician, and president of Dartmouth College. He was born in 1926 in Budapest. He graduated first in his class from George Washington High School, New York City. He received his doctorate in mathematics from Princeton University in 1949. While at Princeton, he was research assistant of Albert Einstein at the Institute for Advanced Study. In 1953 he was appointed professor of mathematics at Dartmouth College. For more than a decade he was chairman of the Mathematics Department of Dartmouth. In 1970 he was appointed president of Dartmouth College, an office he continues to hold today.

President Kemeny has made distinguished contributions to mathematical research, the teaching of mathematics, and computer technology.

His research concerns mathematical analysis, studies of Markov processes, and mathematical models. As department chairman at Dartmouth, he developed a nationally recognized mathematics faculty, known for both teaching and research excellence. President Kemeny is co-author of BASIC, a computer language now widely used in time-sharing systems. His best known books for the general reader are *Introduction*

to *Finite Mathematics* and *Man and the Computer: A New Symbiosis*.)

Three Hungarian-born physicists are among the most distinguished American scientists of our age. Edward Teller, Leo Szilard, and Eugene Wigner. They are recognized throughout the world for their outstanding role in the development of nuclear energy.

Edward Teller was born in Budapest in 1908. He received his education at the universities of Budapest, Karlsruhe, Munich and Leipzig. Following World War I, he lectured at the Universities of Leipzig, Göttingen, and London. He emigrated to the United States in 1935. He became a member of the research group under Enrico Fermi that developed the first nuclear chain reaction. Later he continued his research at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory. He was appointed associate director, then director of the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory. Edward Teller is the recipient of the most prized scientific awards in the United States. They include the Albert Einstein Award, the Enrico Fermi Award, and the General Donovan Memorial Award.

Leo Szilard was born in 1898 in Budapest. Starting in 1922 he studied and conducted research at the Institute of Theoretical Physics of the University of Berlin. He left Germany at the time of the Nazi rise to power. In England he developed with the British physicist T. A. Chalmers the first method of separating isotopes of radioactive elements. He settled in the United States in 1937. He joined the research group under Enrico Fermi in 1942. He was appointed professor of biophysics at the University of Chicago in 1946. Among his scientific attainments is the development of the chemostat, used in bacteriological research. He was one of those scientists who advocated the peaceful use of atomic energy. He received the Atoms for Peace Award in 1959.

Eugene Wigner was born in Budapest in 1902. He received his education at the Polytechnic University of Budapest and Berlin. At first interested in chemical engineering, he chose as his main field of research theoretical physics. After his emigration to the United States, he taught at Princeton University and the University of Wisconsin. He served as a distinguished scientist on several national advisory groups including the National Research Council, the National Science Foundation, and the National Bureau of Standards.

Eugene Wigner developed several concepts of nuclear

science that made possible the utilization of nuclear energy. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1963, the Enrico Fermi Award, the Max Planck Medal, and the National Science Medal.

One of the great research scientists of our time is unquestionably Theodore von Karman, the pioneer of modern aeronautics and astronautics. His basic research contributed to the development of contemporary aeronautical technology, including helicopters, gliders, aircrafts, supersonic aviation, and rocket design. He is also remembered as an outstanding organizer of large scientific research projects.

Born in Budapest in 1881, Karman attended a newly-developed model secondary school, designed by his father, Mor Karman, the founder of modern Hungarian secondary education. It is of interest to note that several other Hungarian scientists attended that school, including Gyorgy Hevesi and Leo Szilard.

Following the completion of his studies at the Polytechnic University of Budapest, Karman pursued his engineering studies in Hungary, France, and Germany. He became director of the Aeronautical Institute of Aachen in 1912. In that position, he developed many of his scientific findings. In 1930 he emigrated to the United States and became director of the Guggenheim Aeronautical Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology. He founded the U. S. Institute of Aeronautical Sciences. He participated in the establishment of Aerojet General Corporation in 1941, the first American manufacturer of rocket engines. He was co-founder of the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory at the California Institute of Technology.

Karman's scientific achievements are truly impressive. He originated the boundary surface theory, the theory of wing surface design, the turbulence theory and Karman's vortex. He made contributions to fluid mechanics, supersonic flight technology, wind erosion, elasticity, aerodynamics, and thermodynamics. He played a leading role in the development of American rocket technology and guided missiles. He received the First National Medal of Science from President Kennedy in 1963.

Hungarians have also excelled in the field of medical science. Best known is the Hungarian biochemist Albert Szent-Györgyi. In research conducted at Cambridge University and the Mayo Foundation, he found that ascorbic acid is identical to Vitamin C. He isolated ascorbic acid from the

plant juice of paprika. He also conducted research into cellular respiration, specifically fumaric acid. For these discoveries, he received the Nobel Prize in physiology and medicine in 1937. He emigrated to the United States in 1947. He was appointed director of the Research Institute for Muscle Research at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts. His main field of research is the biochemistry of muscles, cells and applications to cancer research. He published several major studies in chemical physiology and biology. Szent-Györgyi strongly influenced the younger generation of Hungarian scientists who are now assuming leading positions in biological and medical research. One of his former students is Bruno Straub, director of the Szeged Biological Research Center, a recognized center for protein research.

Georg von Bekesy was another internationally known Hungarian medical scientist, who contributed to American medical science. He was born in Budapest in 1899. He received his doctorate in physics at the University of Budapest in 1923. As professor of experimental physics at the University of Budapest and as director of the Hungarian Telephone System Research Laboratory, he pursued studies of sound communication in the inner ear for several decades. He continued these studies at the Kungliga Karolinska Institut in Stockholm, Sweden and at Harvard University since 1947. As a result of his discoveries, we can differentiate between several forms of deafness and select proper treatment for them accurately. He developed a method of testing human hearing called the Bekesy audiometry. For his contributions to medical science he received the 1961 Nobel Prize. His work is summarized in his books, *Experiments in Hearing and Sensory Inhibitions*.

Hans Selye, the father of the theory of stress, is also of Hungarian descent. He was born in Vienna of Hungarian and Austrian parents. He received his secondary education at the Benedictine school of Komarom, Hungary. He completed his advanced studies in Prague, Paris, and Rome. In 1931 he came to the United States as Rockefeller Research Fellow and engaged in research at Johns Hopkins University. Since 1932 he has been on the faculty of McGill University, Montreal. He is also director of the Institute for Experimental Medicine and Surgery at the University of Montreal. Selye's theory of stress has revolutionized medical approaches to

the treatment of terminal diseases such as brain hemorrhage, coronary thrombosis, hardening of the arteries, blood pressure, and cancer. His work has also given us a better understanding of the role of human psychology in modern medicine. His major publications are *The Stress of Life*, *Hormones and Resistance*, *From Dream to Discovery*.

### 3. Hungarian Contributions to the Arts in America

Since the first decade of the twentieth century, a dynamic, artistic renaissance has taken place in Hungary. It is comparable to the unprecedented role of Hungarians in the worldwide expansion of scientific knowledge. The most important field of Hungarian artistic expression is music. Its greatest representatives are Béla Bartók and Zoltán Kodály.

Bartók and Kodály were profoundly influenced by the discovery of original Hungarian folk music. They dedicated their lives to the collection, understanding, and musical interpretation of folk music traditions, which, up to their own time were little known and appreciated. They also utilized the themes and expressions of folk music in developing their own musical compositions.

Bartók and Kodály are considered major twentieth century composers. Bartók fused Hungarian and other folk music traditions into a thoroughly new, highly contemporary style of musical expression. His six string quartets rank among the great musical compositions of our age. They integrate traditional folk music with modern musical forms. The Concerto for Orchestra and Sonata for Solo Violin were composed while Bartók resided in the United States. Kodály used Hungarian folk music as well as Hungarian historical themes in developing a contemporary musical style in his compositions. One of his best known works is *Psalmus Hungaricus*, written on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the uniting of Buda and Pest and based on a sixteenth century Hungarian rendition of the fifty-fifth psalm. Equally well known are his works *Székegyfő*, based on Transylvanian folk traditions, and his opera, *Háry János*, depicting the adventures of a Hungarian folk hero.

For almost a decade at the beginning of their musical careers, Bartók and Kodály toured Hungary and collected all available types of folk musical traditions. Bartók included in his collections not only Hungarian, but also Slovak, Ruman-



ian, Serbo-Croatian and Arab folk music. The significance of their achievement went beyond the world of music. They created a vision of human art that incorporated folk traditions into modern experience.

One result of their activity was a new approach to music education. This was particularly the concern of Kodály. He initiated the teaching of folk music education at the Hungarian Academy of Music. Because of his efforts, folk music education became a regular course of instruction at Hungarian schools of music. He developed a special methodology for music education, placing emphasis on the teaching of music as an integral part of human development from the primary grades on. This approach is now generally used in Hungary. Music educators in the United States are sufficiently interested in the Kodály method to study it in Hungary. Several institutes for the teaching of the Kodály method have now been established in the United States.

Another influence of the Hungarian musical renaissance can be seen in the great number of outstanding Hungarian musicians active in the major music centers of the world. Many of them were students of Kodály and Bartók. In most cases they were strongly influenced by the new approach to musical expression developed in the Hungarian musical renaissance.

One of the best-known Hungarian musicians in America is Eugene Ormandy. He has been conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra since 1938. At the age of five he was admitted to the Hungarian Academy of Music as a child prodigy. He received violin instruction from Jenő Hubay, the internationally recognized concert violinist. Ormandy came to the United States in 1921. He is one of the most brilliant interpreters of classical compositions in America. He is the recipient of the Presidential Freedom Medal, the National Recognition Award of the Freedom Foundation, the Gold Medallion of the Vienna Philharmonic and the French Legion of Honor.

Antal Dorati is another Hungarian-born musician of recognized stature in America. He studied at the Hungarian Academy of Music under the direction of Bartók and Kodály. He began his career as conductor of the Budapest Opera House at the age of 18. He was conductor of several European orchestras before coming to the United States in 1937. He is now one of the leading American conductors. Previously associated with the Dallas and Minneapolis or-

chestras, he is now conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Georg Solti was born in Budapest and studied at the Hungarian Academy of Music with Erno Dohnanyi, Kodaly and Bartok. He conducted at the State Opera House in Budapest. Following World War II, he was musical director of the Munich State Opera, the Frankfurt Opera, and the Covent Garden Opera in London. He made his American debut in 1953 as conductor of the San Francisco Opera. He is the recipient of the First Prize in Piano of the Geneva International Competition and eight other international awards. At present, he is musical director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Fritz Reiner, also of Hungarian birth and education, is another outstanding musical director, who has a special association with Pittsburgh. He studied at the Royal Academy of Music in Budapest, then conducted the Dresden Opera until 1921. He came to the United States in 1922. First he was conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. He directed the opera and orchestra departments at the Curtis Institute of Music, Philadelphia. He became director of the Pittsburgh Symphony in 1938 and he remained here until 1948. He was music director of the Metropolitan Opera in New York until 1953. In the last decade of his life he directed the Chicago Symphony with distinction. He died in 1963.

The Hungarian artistic renaissance also produced significant practitioners in the field of visual art. Hungarian artists were strongly influenced by the contemporary schools of Western art, but they also sought to relate the new styles to native Hungarian traditions. Even more than the musicians, Hungarian artists found it necessary to create their works abroad and several have made outstanding contributions to the American world of the arts.

Marcel Breuer is recognized as one of the most influential architects in America. He was born in Pécs, Hungary in 1902. He studied and taught architecture at the Bauhaus School of design in Weimar, Germany. He became one of the leading advocates of the application of modern design principles to public architecture. He practiced architecture in Berlin, then emigrated to the United States. He was professor of architecture at Harvard University, at the same time he practiced architecture with the famous German architect, Walter Gropius. The primary concern of Breuer was to utilize modern

technology in the development of a modern style of architecture. In private practice since 1946 he designed some of the best-known public buildings in Europe and America. They include the UNESCO Headquarters Building in Paris, St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, HUD Headquarters Building in Washington, D.C., the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, the IBM Research Center, France.

László Moholy-Nagy was a prominent painter, photographer and art teacher, who was especially influential in the use of color, texture, light and equilibrium in contemporary art. He was a member of the Hungarian artistic and literary revival at the turn of the century. He taught at the Bauhaus school of design in Germany and edited the Bauhausbook series, published by the school. He developed an approach to artistic education that emphasized the rôle of innate visual observation. He came to Chicago in 1937 and founded a school of design, modeled on the Bauhaus, known as the Institute of Design. He died in 1946.

György Kepes was born in Selyp, Hungary in 1906. He is known today as one of the most influential teachers and practitioners of art, design, and photography in America. He received his education at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Budapest. He became especially interested in the use of light and color in modern design. He created a great number of designs for motion pictures, stage productions and commercial exhibits in Germany and England. He came to the United States in 1937. He became director of the light and color departments of the Institute of Design in Chicago. In 1946 he was appointed Professor of Visual Design at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Since 1967 he has been Director of the Center for Advanced Visual Studies at the same school. His main writings include *Language of Vision* and *The New Landscape in Art and Science*.

Joseph Domján is a recognized master of color woodcuts. Born in Budapest in 1907, he received his training at the Budapest Academy of Fine Arts. His style is strongly influenced by the decorative folk arts of Hungary. He was awarded the rare honor, "Master of the Colored Woodcut," by the Chinese Government. His works are exhibited in major international museums, including the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, the Swedish National Museum, the Johansen Gallery, Copenhagen. Domján now resides in the United States.

Hungarians performed substantial roles in the development of American film. Several gifted film producers, cinematographers and performing actors came to the United States to find outlets for their talents.

The best-known of these is Adolph Zukor. Born in Hungary in 1873, he came to the United States at age sixteen. He founded the distinguished film production agency, Paramount Pictures. Some of the most famous film stars of the century appeared in his productions: Greta Garbo, Gloria Swanson, Rudolph Valentino, and Maurice Chevalier. His production of *Wings* received the first Academy Award in 1928. He was honored in 1949 with a special Oscar for his contributions to the American film industry.

Joe Pasternak was another Hungarian-born producer with such credits to his name as *The Merry Widow*, *The Student Prince*, and *Please Don't Eat the Daisies*. Sir Alexander Korda, Ivan Tors, Michael Curtiz and Andre De Toth are other recognized film producers of Hungarian birth.

Hungarian actors also contributed to American films. Victor Varconi and Ilona Massey starred in films from the 1920s to the 1940s. Paul Lukas' career spanned 40 years and totaled 77 films, including such well-known productions as *20,000 Leagues under the Sea* and *Tender is the Night*. Eva Bartok starred in the 1950s in films with Gina Lollobrigida, Curt Jurgens, and Dean Martin. Bela Lugosi is known as the star of *Dracula* and *Frankenstein* thrillers. Peter Lorre starred in over 70 films, including *Casablanca*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and the *Buster Keaton Story*.

Hungarians influenced two other aspects of American motion pictures: cinematography and film music. Ernest Laszlo is well-known for his cinematography of such productions as *Judgement at Nuremberg*, *Ship of Fools*, and *Airport*. Miklos Rozsa is the most prominent of several Hungarian film music composers. His long list of compositions for films include *Kipling's Jungle Book*, *Madame Bovary*, *Quo Vadis*, *Spellbound*, *The Thief of Bagdad*, and *Ben Hur*.

#### 4. Hungarians in Sports Competitions.

Hungarians have consistently excelled in international sports competitions. In fact, Hungarian sports achievements have placed Hungary among the top-ranked competitors in the

world. This may be explained in part by the very strong emphasis in Hungarian education and society on physical fitness and athletic competition. Whatever the full explanation, the Hungarian achievement in the field of sports is a remarkable feat.

One indication of Hungarian sports achievements is the Hungarian record in the Olympic Games. Hungarians have been particularly successful in athletics, swimming, water polo, fencing, gymnastics and soccer. Since the 1896 Olympics, when two Hungarians received gold medals in swimming, Hungary was awarded 15 gold medals in swimming, 26 gold medals in fencing, 6 gold medals in pentathlon and water polo, 9 gold medals in gymnastics. From 1908 to 1964, Hungary won first place in all saber fencing Olympic competitions. On the basis of unofficial point scores, Hungary finished in third place in the 1936, 1948, and 1952 Olympic Games, in fourth place in the 1956 and 1968 Games, and in fifth place in 1960.

It is not surprising therefore that Hungarians in the United States have been prominent in national sports. We find Hungarian athletes as competitors in the major national sports events, from swimming to gymnastics. In track and field competitions, for example, László Tábori won the 1961 US championship in the 5,000 meter race in 1961. In gymnastics, Attila Takacs was national AAU champion in free calisthenics in 1957 and 1958.

Hungarians have achieved impressive results particularly in two American sports competitions: football and fencing.

Joe Namath is one of the great alltime passers in American football. He was born in Beaver Falls, near Pittsburgh. As quarterback for the University of Alabama, he led his team in three bowl games. Bear Bryant, the Alabama coach, called him "the greatest athlete I ever coached." He signed with the New York Jets in 1965. His greatest feat came in the 1969 Super Bowl, when he led the Jets to an upset victory over the Baltimore Colts. He holds the Super Bowl game record for pass completions: 17. In 1966 he established four AFL records: passes attempted (491), passes completed (258), yards gained (4,007), average gain (8.16). Through his football career he completed 1,836 passes and 170 touchdowns. Joe Namath holds the following national awards: Hickok Belt, AFL Most Valuable Player, Super Bowl Most Valuable Player, George Halas Award As Most Courageous Player.

• Larry Csonka played halfback for Syracuse University. He was All-America Player in 1967 and Most Valuable Player in the 1968 College All Star Game. He attained fourth place in the 1967 Heisman Trophy nominations. He signed with the Miami Dolphins in 1968. Larry Csonka and Mercury Morris became the only pair of teammates to gain 1,000 yards each in one season. In 1974 he broke the Super Bowl rushing record by carrying 33 times for 145 yards.

Charlie Gogolak was place kicker for Princeton from 1963 to 1965. He achieved the fifth place nationally in kickscoring: 170 points. He established a national record in scoring 16 field goals in one season at Princeton. He set, in addition, seven NCAA records as member of the Princeton team. He played with the Washington Redskins in the 1966-68 seasons.

Peter Gogolak, Charlie's brother, played for Cornell University. He was kicker for the Buffalo Bills in 1964-1965. He signed with the New York Giants in 1966. He kicked the longest field goal in Giant history: 54 yards. He became top scorer for the Giants in 1972 with 97 points and in 1973 with 776 points.

Hungarians have consistently dominated saber fencing competitions internationally, so it isn't surprising that they are strong fencers and successful coaches in the United States. Since 1908, Hungarians won 22 out of 44 men's world championships. They held the world title in men's team saber for 15 years out of 31 competitions held. The Official Encyclopedia of Sports states, "Among the greatest international competitors were Nedo Nadi of Italy, Hungary's Ilona Elek and Rudolf Karpati of Hungary, Olympic saber champion in 1956 and 1960."

Hungarian saber fencers have won 15 US championships since 1944, from a total of 22 competitions held. Five Hungarian fencers dominated the US men's saber events in that period. Tibor Nyilas won seven championships, Alex Orban won four, Daniel Magay won three, Eugene Hamori won two, and Attila Keresztes won one. Paul Pesthy is the best-known American epee fencer of Hungarian origin. He won the 1964, 1966, 1967, and 1968 US championships.

Hungarian coaches have played an important role in improving the accomplishments of fencing in the United States. George Santelli, the Hungarian-born fencing master, coached the U. S. Olympic Team for five years from 1928 to 1952. Csaba Elthes, a recent immigrant to the United States,

was US Olympic Team coach from 1960 to 1976. He also coached the US Pan-American and US World Championship teams.

## 6. Chronology Of Hungarian History

130,000 B.C. 500 B.C.	Human inhabitants in present-day Hungary. Scythians and other nomadic peoples in Hungary.
20-300 A.D.	Pannonia and Dacia were under Roman influence.
400 A.D.	Huns establish their Empire.
800 A.D.	Frankish Empire extends into Hungary.
896 A.D.	Hungarian conquest.
955 A.D.	Battle of Lechfeld, ending Hungarian raids.
1000 A.D.	Coronation of Stephen I as first King of Hungary.
1000-1038	Rule of King Stephen I (Saint Stephen). Introduction of Christianity, political organization established, unity and independence of Hungary achieved.
1077-1095	King László I (Saint Ladislaus) continued Christian religious influences and enlarged Hungary by conquest and diplomacy.
1205-1235	Endre II issued the Golden Bull (1222), basic charter of liberties, restricting powers of the king.
1235-1270	Béla IV, known as second founder of the kingdom. Invading Mongol armies devastated Hungary, after their withdrawal the king rebuilt and fortified Hungary.
1301	Death of Endre III, last ruler of Arpad dynasty.
1308-1342	Robert Charles I of the Anjou family strengthened central authority, restored internal stability.
1342-1382	Louis I, the Great, expanded Hungarian influence in the Balkans and was elected King of Poland.
1367	University of Pecs was founded.
1387-1437	Sigismund of Luxemburg, also Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, faced serious internal discord and beginning of Turkish

1446-1452	expansion to Hungary. John Hunyadi, Regent of Hungary. Led successful military campaigns against expanding Turks.
1456	Under Hunyadi Christian forces defeated the Turks and saved Belgrade.
1458-1490	King Matthias Hunyadi, one of the great rulers of Hungary. Established strong central authority, enforced equitable administration of justice, established a standing army and supported the arts, literature and education.
1473	Chronicum Budensis, the first book printed in Hungary.
1514	Peasant revolt under György Dózsa, one of the major social upheavals in Hungary.
1526	Battle of Mohács, at which Hungarian armies were destroyed by the Turks and leading to dissolution of a unified Hungarian kingdom.
1541	Turks occupy Buda, royal residence, and gain control of southern Hungary.
1571-1576	Stephen Báthori, Prince of Transylvania
1604-1606	Bocskay rebellion against Habsburgs, leading to Treaty of Vienna 1606.
1613-1629	Gábor Bethlen, Prince of Transylvania.
1635	University of Nagyszombat founded by Cardinal Peter Pázmány, predecessor of University of Budapest.
1686	Reconquest of Buda from the Turks.
1699	Peace Treaty of Karlovitz, requiring Turkish evacuation of Hungary.
1703-1711	The Rákóczi Rebellion.
1722	The Pragmatic Sanction, constitutional agreement by which Hungary accepts female succession and Hungarian constitutional rights are re-affirmed.
1740-1780	Maria Theresa
1780-1790	Joseph II
1795	Hungarian Jacobin Conspiracy
1802	Foundation of the Hungarian National Museum by Count Francis Széchenyi.



<b>1825</b>	Foundation of the Hungarian National Academy of Sciences by Count Stephen Széchenyi
<b>1825-1848</b>	Era of reforms in Hungary, Hungarian revival in social, political, literary, cultural life.
<b>March 15, 1848</b>	Popular demonstrations in Pest, led by revolutionary poet Sándor Petőfi, proclaim national demands for liberty and national self-government.
<b>April 1848</b>	Reform legislation establishes social, political liberties and national self-government.
<b>1848-1849</b>	War of Independence
<b>October 6, 1849</b>	Execution of thirteen Hungarian generals by Austrian government. National Day of Mourning.
<b>1848-1916</b>	Francis Joseph I.
<b>1867</b>	Austro-Hungarian Compromise establishes Austria-Hungary, providing for Hungarian self-government.
<b>1873</b>	City of Budapest formed from the communities of Buda, Obuda, Pest. By 1900, Budapest was eighth largest city in Europe.
<b>1880-1914</b>	Large-scale emigration from Hungary to America
<b>1914-1918</b>	World War I.
<b>1920</b>	Treaty of Trianon, resulting in dismemberment of historic Hungary and incorporation of three million Hungarians in Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Austria.
<b>1920-1944</b>	Regent Nicholas Horthy
<b>1941-1945</b>	Hungary in World War II.
<b>1945</b>	Soviet armies occupy Hungary.
<b>1948</b>	Hungarian Peoples Republic under Communist control.
<b>1956</b>	Hungarian Revolution.
<b>1956-present</b>	János Kádár, chairman of Hungarian Communist Party.
<b>1968</b>	New Economic Mechanism, providing for decentralized economic policy.

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7. Survey of Hungary: Past and Present
8. Hungarian Historical Sources and Collections in Greater Pittsburgh
9. Bibliographical Guide to Hungarian-American Sources
10. Teaching Guide for Hungarian Curriculum Kits

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